
Revelation 8:1-13

THE SEVENTH SEAL AND THE GOLDEN CENSER

Ch8 is opened with the 7th seal, Christ Himself is opening this scroll with 7 seals, 7 means "complete" in scripture. The 7th seal is the title deed to this Earth, so Jesus is taking back His creation. All of creation belongs to Him.

Vs1: "When He opened the 7th seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour."
Heaven is normally a place full of constant joy, adoration, worship, singing for the Lord from thousands of angels. But when this 7th seal is opened, there is 30 minutes silence (Earth Time) because what is getting ready to happen on Earth is so awful, so violent, so horrendous, that even the heavenly bodies realize the seriousness of the opening of this 7th seal.

Vs2: The 7th seal is not a judgement in itself, but it opens up the judgement of the 7 trumpets, which in turn opens more judgements. God is getting ready to call attention to the Earth.

Vs3: One angel was given a golden censer of incense. We use a brass one to offer up a sweet smelling prayer to God. So that's what this angel does, he offers up the prayers to the golden altar.

Vs4: Out of the angels hand, our prayers are offered to God with the prayers of the saints and angels.

Vs5: the angel hurled the censer down to Earth, and there were earthquakes, thunder, lightning. This is a signal to Earth that The Time Has Come.

THE TRUMPETS

Vs6: the 1st trumpet sounds

Vs7: The first four trumpet judgement s are hurled directly at the Earth, at nature itself, just the environment, not mankind. It burns 1/3 trees and grass.

Vs8: the 2nd trumpet sounds

Vs9: it is believed a volcano erupts, and this causes 1/3 the sea became blood and 1/3 the creatures of the sea died, 1/3 ships destroyed. This means the Mediterranean Sea.

Vs10: the 3rd trumpet sounds.

Vs11: "star" in this case means from the Greek, means a bright heavenly body. Maybe meteorites hit the Earth, named Wormwood (wormwood means bitter, and it's also an herb used to make an alcoholic drink that is so intoxicating that too much of it will kill you), falling on 1/3 of the rivers and lakes, causing 1/3 of the water to become bitter or poisoned, and this in turn killed many people who drank it.

Vs12: the 4th trumpet sounds, and 1/3 of the moon, sun, stars, and heavenly bodies were destroyed.

Vs12: an Eagle/angel was heard flying midair, saying Woe! Woe! Woe! (Woe in Greek means grief grief grief) the 3 last trumpets are about to sound. He is saying we haven't seen anything yet. The last 3 will directly affect mankind, and it will be horrible.